

Chapter 5

Yong Tobias seeking a guide for his iourney, Raphael the Angel in shape of a man presenteth himself, and vndertaketh this office. 23. The mother lamenteth the abscence, and danger of her sonne.

The second part.
The iourney and affayres of yong Tobias affited by the Angel Raphael.

Then Tobias answered his father, and sayd: I wil doe al things, father, whatfoeuer thou haft commanded me. ² But how I shal require this money, I can not tel, he knoweth not me, and I know not him: what token shal I geue him? Yea neither the way which leadeth thither, did I euer know. ³ Then his father answered him, and sayd: I haue the bil of his hand with me, which when thou shalt shew him he wil forthwith reftore it. ⁴ But goe now, and feeke thee out some faythful man, that may goe with thee being fure of his hyre: that thou mayft receiue it, whiles I yet liue. ⁵ Then Tobias going forth, found a ^agoodlie yongman, fstanding girded, and as it were readie to walke. ⁶ And not knowing that it was an Angel of God, he faluted him, and sayd: From whence haue we thee, good yongman? ⁷ But he answered: Of the children of Ifrael. And Tobias sayd to him: Knoweft thou the way, that leadeth vnto the countrie of the Medes? ⁸ To whom he answered: I know it: and al the wayes therof I haue often walked, and I haue taried with Gabelus our brother, who aby-deth in Rages a citie of the Medes, which is fuate in the Mount Ecbatanis. ⁹ To whom Tobias sayd: Stay for me I befeech thee, til I tel thefe fame things to my father. ¹⁰ Then Tobias going in told al thefe things to his father. Whereupon his father marueiling, requested that he would come in vnto him. ¹¹ Going in therefore he faluted him, and sayd: Ioy be to thee alwaies. ¹² And Tobias sayd: What maner of ioy fhall be to me, which fitte in darkenes, and fee not the light of heauen? ¹³ To whom the yong man sayd: Be of good cheere, it is very neere

^a The Angel Raphael appearing in forme of a man prefigured our Sauour who indede became a verie man. *S. Beda.*

that thou mayst be cured of God. ¹⁴ Tobias therefore sayd to him: Canst thou bring my sonne to Gabelus into Rages a citie of the Medes? and when thou shalt returne, I wil pay thee thy hyre. ¹⁵ And the Angel sayd to him: I wil conduct him, & bring him to thee againe. ¹⁶ To whom Tobias answered: I pray thee, tel me, of what house, or what tribe art thou? ¹⁷ To whom ^aRaphael the Angel sayd: Seekest thou the kinred of an hyred seruant, or an hyred seruant himselfe, that may goe with thy sonne? ¹⁸ But lest perhaps I make thee careful, I am Azarias the sonne of Ananias the great. ¹⁹ And Tobias answered: Thou art of a great kinred. But I pray thee be not angrie that I would know thy kinred. ²⁰ And the Angel sayd to him: I wil lead thy sonne safe, and bring him to thee agayne safe. ²¹ And Tobias answering, sayd: Wel may you walke, and God be in your iourney, and his Angel accompanie you. ²² Then al things being readie, that were to be caried in the way, Tobias bid his father and his mother, fare wel, and they walked both together. ²³ And when they were departed, his mother began to weepe, & to say: Thou hast taken the staffe of our old age, and sent him away from vs. ²⁴ I would the money had neuer bene, for the which thou hast sent him. ²⁵ For our pouertie sufficed vs, that we might account this thing riches, that we say our sonne. ²⁶ And Tobias sayd to her: Weepe not, our sonne shall come thither safe, and shall returne safe to vs, and thine eyes shall see him. ²⁷ For I beleue that ^bthe good Angel of God doth accompanie him, & doth wel dispose al things, that are done about him, so that he shall returne to vs with ioy. ²⁸ At this voyce his mother left weeping, and held her peace.

^a *Raphael* signifying *medicine of God*. *S. Greg. ho. 34.* calleth him selfe Azarias, whose shape and visage he tooke vpon him, which name also signifieth *the helpe of God*.

^b Angel Guardian.